

ERRATA

To the report: Review on the preparedness for implementation of Sustainable Development Goals in Aruba

Minister's response

- On page 8, 2nd paragraph the sentence: *After not receiving a formal response from the minister, the Court of Audit wrote a letter to the minister on December 12th 2018, that is was unfortunate of not having received a response. The date of December 12th should be changed to December 14th.*

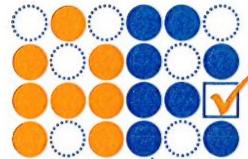
In the interest of completeness and transparency, it should be mentioned that the response of the minister of General Affairs was received by the Court of Audit in the afternoon of December 14th, after the official publication of the report. The minister's response is attached to this erratum.





Government of Aruba

Prime Minister of Aruba
Minister of General Affairs



L.G.Smith Blvd. 76
Oranjestad, Aruba
Tel. (297) 528 4900

INGEKOMEN

Volgnummer: 52118

Datum: DEC 14 2018

Paraaf: V.D.



Algemene Rekenkamer

Algemene Rekenkamer
Wilhelminastraat 6
Oranjestad
Aruba

Your reference: 0496/18.234 Our reference: MAZ/3581/2018 Oranjestad, 12 December 2018

Subject: Research on the preparedness for implementation
of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in Aruba

On 27 November 2018 the Government of Aruba received a copy of the Supreme Audit Institution's Report Research on the preparedness for the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) In Aruba requesting feedback on the report. We will give our feedback based on the observations from the Ministry of General Affairs.

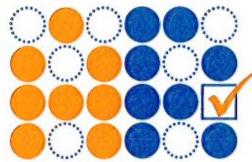
Aruba is an early implementer of the SDGs, the research on the extent to which the government has set the necessary policies and systems in place to ensure the proper implementation of the global goals, is seen by the government as a possibility for its own betterment to develop the necessary processes, policies and mechanisms in place to be able to optimize its efforts in implementing the SDGs on Aruba.

Your main conclusion is that the government is committed to implementing the SDGs, which is the case of Cabinet Wever-Croes. In fact, Cabinet Wever-Croes chose to commit itself to implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals on Aruba, which are prioritized in the 2017 Aruba Government Agreement. The SDGs are well aligned with the governments' vision which is predicated on investing in human capabilities and opportunities. The Sustainable Development Goals constitute an integrated and innovative framework to help transform societies in propelling their socio-economic development while protecting the environment, promoting the well-being of current and future generations and ensuring that *No One is Left behind*. The SDGs are interconnected, indivisible and inclusive by their nature in addition they provide a cross sectoral framework which stimulates a coherent approach with planning as well as to monitor and evaluate its progress.

The Government has mandated the SDG Commission by ministerial decree to give strategic direction and coordinate the implementation of the SDGs in Aruba. This mandate was reaffirmed in January 2018, with a broader representation to include the main government ministries and departments mandated with socio-economic development, environmental sustainability and the national statistical office. This is reflective of the continuing evolving landscape due to the increasing needs to further the implementation of the SDGs in Aruba. This acknowledgement by the SDG Commission indicates that by moving forward with the implementation that arising needs will need to be addressed by updating its composition, practices and auxiliary bodies.

The implementation of a global agenda to the context of an island is not without its challenges, as there is no one size fits all approach. Each country is engaged on making the SDGs work in their national context. For Aruba, the SDG Commission in its proceedings, to create the necessary conditions to advance the transformative and cross-cutting elements of the SDGs is stimulating and





fostering coherence in its manner of implementation. As sustainable development can best be described using the Rubik's Cube metaphor, where an overtly focus on one side does not let you address the other sides and thus implementation is able to be catalyzed by the nine accelerators. These nine accelerators proposed for Aruba emerged out of a multi-stakeholder participatory process with guidance from the United Nations. They are categorized by thematic areas organized along five pillars of sustainable development: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.

The SDG Commission is advancing towards a whole of government and whole of society levels in raising of awareness and ownership of the SDGs. Where coherence, complementarity and sincere cooperation are able to mutually enforce the implementation, efficiency and effectivity of the SDGs and for it to be more than the sum of its parts.

This report by the Supreme Audit Institution is the first of its kind in Aruba, identifying areas where progress has been made and where our further efforts are needed. As the Government of Aruba has committed itself to the SDGs the work done so far has propelled an important process in the right direction. This work will be continued and intensified in the upcoming years.

Sincerely yours,



E.C. Wever-Croes, LL.M.
Prime Minister
Minister of General Affairs

